

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that the Amendment filed on 4/8/2004 is considered non-compliant because the claims do not use a strikethrough for all deleted material and an underline for all added material. In particular, the Examiner noted that the change of the second instance of claim 22 (as filed originally) should be struck through and its change to claim 23 should be underlined. By this response, the corrected listing of the claims section has been provided to show a strikethrough of claim originally filed claim number 22 (second instance) and its underlined change to claim 23. Applicant notes that in the 4/8/2004 amendment, he simply listed claim 23 and referred to the claim as such due to the Examiner's comment in the Office Action dated 12/22/2003 that misnumbered claim 22 had been renumbered 23. Applicant apologizes for any subsequent confusion.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the arguments advanced above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested, and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Applicant earnestly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning this amendment, the application, or allowance of any claims thereof.

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Respectfully submitted,

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